APPENDIX I.

[*Vide* answer to Starred Question No. 512 at page 577.]

The Director of Agriculture has submitted a scheme for reclamation of waste lands to an extent of 2,000 acres in Moranam village in the North Arcot District. The scheme proposed by the Director of Agriculture contemplates parcelling out the area of 2,000 acres into plots of 10 acres of land for assignment at the rate of 10 acres for each landless farmer. The Director of Agriculture has also proposed to form a Co-operative Society each for 20 such farmers (200 acres). The R.C.S., Madras, has suggested that four Land Colonisation Societies may be organised, each with 50 colonists and 500 acres. The Registrar has proposed that, as the beneficiaries will be landless poor from the Harijan and other weaker sections of the community, the pattern of assistance approved by the Government for land colonisation co-operative societies for Harijans may be adopted, as it involves an element of subsidy. He has also suggested that the extra assistance may be met out of the budget of the Harijan Welfare Department.

2. As it has not been possible to find financial provision for this scheme during 1965–66, the scheme has not been sanctioned for implementation.

3. The question of handing over the lands referred to above to the proposed Land Development Corporation of the Government of India is also under consideration.

4. The Government, in the Revenue Department, have recently sanctioned a centrally sponsored scheme for settlement of landless agricultural labourers. Under this scheme, each such family will be eligible for the allotment of five acres of land and financial assistance of Rs. 5,000.

A copy of the Government Order is appended.

Settlement of landless agricultural labourers during the Third Five-Year Plan period—Centrally sponsored Scheme—Implementation—Orders passed.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

G.O. Ms. No. 2491, dated 25th August 1965.

READ—the following papers :—

G. O. Ms. No. 3064, Revenue, dated 17th October 1963.

From the Board of Revenue, Reference B-3. 10876/63-1, dated 7th December 1963.

From the Board of Revenue, B.P.Ms. No. 568 (V), dated 14th April 1964.

From the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture), Letter No. 20-113/63-My, dated 8th April 1964.

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Order—No. 2491, *Revenue, dated 25th August* 1965.

The Government of India have sponsored a scheme for the settlement of 10,000 families of landless agricultural labourers on an extent of 50,000 acres at a cost of Rs. 1·50 crores during the Third Five-Year Plan period. They have also undertaken to reimburse the actual expenditure incurred by the State Government according to the pattern of assistance laid down by them.

2. The Government appointed a Special Officer to go into the various aspects of the scheme and make recommendations in regard to its implementation. The Special Officer accordingly submitted his report. The Government have examined the various recommendations of the Special Officer in consultation with the Board of Revenue and they pass the following orders :—

3. The scheme shall be implemented *forthwith* on the following pattern in all the districts of State except Madras, Kanyakumari and the Nilgiris.

4. *Extent of land available for the scheme.*—The total extent of lands available in the ten districts is 66,015·93 acres as detailed below :—

Name of the district.	*Extent available.* ACRES.
Chingleput	1,814.85
South Arcot	8,073.55
North Arcot	2,714.88
Thanjavur	3,947.38
Tiruchirappalli	3,592.05
Madurai	6,374.20
Ramanathapuram	36,336.50
Tirunelveli	253.01
Salem	1,294.04
Coimbatore	1,615.47
Total ...	66,015.93

The lands can be grouped into three categories according to the cost involved in reclaiming them, viz. :—

(i) less than Rs. 150 per acre (28,100 acres);

(ii) between Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 per acre (24,200 acres); and

(iii) above Rs. 300 per acre (14,900 acres).

The Special Officer and the Board of Revenue have recommended that lands, the reclamation of which would cost less than Rs. 150 per acre, alone might be brought under the scheme. The Government have decided that if the targetted number of families are to be resettled, all the available lands will have to be brought under the scheme and they accordingly direct that the entire extent of

land available in the districts mentioned above be brought under the scheme. The scheme will, however, be limited only to cultivable waste blocks of land of 15 acres to 250 acres in extent. Under this scheme, each family will be eligible for the allotment of five acres of land. There will be one well on every block of 15 acres to be shared by three families. Of the five acres per family, one acre will be irrigated by the well.

5. *Principles of selection of families.*—For the purpose of selecting allottees of land under this scheme, a Committee consisting of the following officials and non-officials shall be constituted in each Revenue Division :—

Revenue Divisional Officer, *Chairman.*

Non-official Members.

(1) Panchayat President of the Panchayat having jurisdiction over the village.

(2) Chairman of the Panchayat Union.

Official Members.

(1) Tahsildar.

(2) Panchayat Union Commissioner.

In respect of the lands available in a particular village, the Tahsildar will publish a notice in the form prescribed in Annexure I, inviting applications from eligible allottees. Applications for allotment of land should be made in the form prescribed in Annexure II. The last date for receipt of the applications will be thirty days from the date of publication of the notice. Forms of application should be made available free of charge. On receipt of the applications, the Tahsildar will fix the date of enquiry and publish the notice of enquiry in the form prescribed in Annexure III, in the village. He should thereafter make draft list of eligible and ineligible applicants with reference to the following conditions :—

(1) Applicants should be residents of the village in which the scheme is taken up;

(2) Applicants should be able-bodied and should have been engaging themselves in direct cultivation operations; and

(3) Applicants should not own or hold on lease and cultivate more than one acre of dry or half an acre of wet land.

The Revenue Divisional Officer will then fix the date for the meeting of the Committee for the selection of allottees. The Committee will proceed to pass orders on the recommendations of the Tahsildar and finalise the list of eligible applicants. In finalising the list, the following priorities shall be observed :—

(i) Ejected tenants (i.e., tenants who were ejected on resumption of land by the landholders for personal cultivation or due to acquisition of lands by the Government for some project).

(ii) Landless agricultural workers.

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Preference should, however, be given to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. If the number of eligible applicants is more than the allotment to be made in any priority, lots should be drawn. The Committee will return the rejected application to the applicant, so as to give him/her an opportunity to appeal to the appropriate higher authority.

As the scheme involves initial financial assistance from the Government partly recoverable from the allottee, a condition to the effect that the land assigned should not be sold or alienated for twenty-five years and that the entire land should be brought under cultivation within one year will be imposed in addition to the usual conditions prescribed in Form 'D' under B.S.O. 15 to ensure that settlement is real. The land allotted will be exempt from assessment for the first two years, two-third of assessment will be collected from the third year and full rate from the fourth year.

6. *Staff requirements.*—The Government consider that the actual staff requirements can be assessed with any accuracy only after work under the scheme has progressed sufficiently. They therefore direct that pending the assessment of staff requirements and eventual sanction of additional staff, the work relating to the scheme should be carried on with the staff existing in the districts for work connected with assignment, loans, etc. The Collectors will be responsible for the successful implementation of the scheme at the district level and the Additional Secretary (Loans), Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) at the Board's level. The Government do not consider it necessary to appoint a Special Officer in the I.A.S. Cadre for the above work as recommended by the Board of Revenue.

7. *Financial aspects.*—The Government generally accept the following patterns of financial assistance offered by the Government of India :—

(1) *Landless Agricultural Labourers Settlement.*

(*a*) cost of reclamation	Central grant up to Rs. 300 per acre of land allotted.
(*b*) Initial expenditure on resettlement proper.	Up to Rs. 750 per family; of which 75 per cent will be grant and 25 per cent loan. The 25 per cent loan will be recoverable from the beneficiaries.

Under this grant, each family will be eligible for Rs. 2,250. Where the cost of reclamation of land works out to less than Rs. 150 per acre and where only individual allotment of land is possible, assistance under this pattern should be availed of to cover all items of expenditure.

(2) *Colonisation Scheme.*

(*a*) Cost of reclamation	The Central Government will share the grant and loan portions of the cost of reclamation equally with States subjects to a ceiling of Rs. 300 per acre of land allotted.
(*b*) Expenditure on colonisation.	Central assistance would be available to the extent of 100 per cent—75 per cent as grant and 25 per cent as loan —Subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5,000 per family. The 25 per cent loan will be recoverable from the beneficiaries.

This Scheme is the more advantageous of the two patterns offered. The total grant available for each family is Rs. 5,000. The Government consider that this amount would be enough to cover the cost of reclamation, cost of bulls, implements, wells, huts, etc. Where the total cost of reclamation of land works out to more than Rs. 150 and below Rs. 300 per acre and where the settlement of families as a colony on blocks of 25 acres and more is possible, the assistance under this pattern should be availed of.

Regarding these patterns of assistance, the Board is informed that the Government of India are being addressed for confirmation of their offer already made and subsequently clarified by them through their representative during the discussion of the scheme in November 1964.

8. The choice of the pattern of central assistance to be availed of for the scheme, whether for individual allotment or for a colony is entirely left to the discretion of the Collectors. The beneficiaries should be fully made aware of their gain and commitments in the scheme, i.e., that the assistance offered comprises 75 per cent grant and 25 per cent loan, of which the latter portion is repayable by them to the Government. The Board is requested to send, in due course, proposal for the mode of repayment of the loan portion. As no further grant will be available, the Collectors will ensure that all the items of expenditure on settlement of families on land under this scheme are adjusted within the two patterns of assistance set out in paragraph 7.

9. The Board of Revenue is requested to issue suitable instructions to the Collectors consistent with these orders on the following points and send a copy thereof to the Government in due course :—

(1) Giving of publicity to the scheme in the districts, if necessary by issuing press release in the important local dailies.

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(2) The procedure to be followed in regard to the selection of families in greater detail based on the procedure outlined by the Special Officer in Chapter III of his Report.

(3) Procedure to be followed in assessing the requirement of staff.

(4) The implications of the two patterns of assistance offered by the Government of India.

(5) The submission of quarterly reports on the progress in the implementation of the scheme; and

(6) The submission of statements of expenditure at the end of each financial year.

10. The Board is also requested to send to the Government—

(1) Consolidated proposals for sanction of additional staff for the work involved for implementation of the scheme. (The expenditure should be confined to Rs. 3 lakhs only for the staff for the entire period.)

(2) The Board's review on the quarterly progress reports of the Collectors in January, April, July and October of the year; and

(3) A consolidated statement of expenditure at the end of each financial year—as in the case of Survey and Categorisation.

11. The amount of assistance to the families following the pattern laid down by the Government of India as well as the expenditure on staff for this item of work to be employed on receipt of Board's consolidated proposals will be borne initially by this Government and later recovered from the Government of India. This reimbursement by the Government of India will be on actual expenditure being shown annually.

12. The expenditure on grant should be debited to a new detailed head "Settlement of landless agricultural labourers to be opened under 71. Miscellaneous and grant-in-aid contributions, etc.". The loan portion of the expenditure should be debited to "Loans and advances by the State Government g. Development schemes comes under the Third Five-Year Plan. D. Advances to cultivators (1) Loans under control of Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)."

The above should be debited to "State funds" in the first instance and later recovered from the Government of India.

13. The expenditure constitutes an item of "New Service" and the approval of the Legislature will be obtained in due course. Pending approval of the legislature the expenditure will be met initially from the Contingency Fund, orders regarding which will be issued from the Finance Department. The Board of Revenue is requested to intimate to the Finance Department the probable expenditure that will be initially incurred on the implementation of the scheme in the ten districts during 1965-66 up to 31st January 1966. The Board is requested to work out the expenditure with reference to the probable number of families which will be settled during the year and the probable staff that would be required.

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14. This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department—*vide* their U.O. No. 97464, Exp., dated 18th August 1965.

(By order of the Governor)

V. BALASUNDARAM,
Secretary to Government

To The Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Madras-5.
,, all Collectors (except Madras, Kanyakumari and the Nilgiris).
,, all District Revenue Officers.
,, all Revenue Divisional Officers.
,, The Finance Department.
,, The Food and Agriculture Department.
,, The Rural Devlopment and Local Administration Department.
,, The Home Department.
,, The Industries, Labour and Co-operation Department.
,, The Accountant-General, Madras-18.
,, The Director of Agriculture, Madras-5.
,, The Government of India, Ministry of Agriclture (with covering letter).
,, The Government of India, Planning Commission (with covering letter).

ANNEXURE I.

NOTICE CALLING FOR APPLICATION FOR THE ALLOTTMENT OF LAND FOR THE RESETTLEMENT OF LANDLESS AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

It is hereby notified that the Government have formulated a scheme for the resettlement of families of landless agricultural workers on cultivable waste lands, in blocks of fifteen acres and above not exceeding 250 acres belonging to the Government, giving financial assistance for the reclamation of the land and for sinking well and to meet the settlement charges. The lands available for allotment under the scheme are shown in the Schedule. Under this scheme, each family which does not own or hold on lease more than one acre of dry or half-an-acre of wet land will be eligible for the allotment of five acres of land. The application forms can be had from the Taluk Office or Panchayat Office or from the Village Officer, free of charge. The applications should be sent to the Tahsildars.

The terms and conditions and other particulars of the scheme may be obtained from the Taluk Office.

The last date for the receipt of the application is ....
....

SCHEDULE.

Serial number.	Name of the village.	Serial numbers of the fields.	Classification.	Extent.	Assessment.	Boundaries.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
				A. C.	Rs.	

(Sd.)
Tahsildar.